

# Detailed Agenda

**7:45 – 8:45**     **Registration and Continental Breakfast** (*Building C Rotunda*)

**Sign up for CV/Résumé Consultations**

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**8:45 – 9:00**     **Welcome and Opening Remarks** (*Room C111-ABC*)

William T. Schrader, Ph.D.	Deputy Scientific Director, NIEHS, NIH
David J. Thomas, Ph.D.	Pharmacokinetics Branch, NHEERL, EPA
Darshini Trivedi, Ph.D.	Co-Chair, NIEHS Career Fair Committee

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**9:00 – 10:00**     **Keynote Address** (*Room C111-ABC*)

Adam Ruben, Ph.D.  
Author of “*Surviving Your Stupid, Stupid Decision to go to Grad School*”

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**10:00 – 10:20**     **Coffee Break**

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**10:20 – 11:40**     **Session I: Workshops** (Concurrent Sessions)

**A. Networking: A Tool for Building Relationships and Exploring Career Options** (*Room C113*)

Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC	Associate Director, UNC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs Owner & Consultant, Careers in Bloom
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**B. Differences between Academic, Government and Industry Job Application Materials** (*Room C114*)

Patricia Phelps, Ph.D.	Deputy Director, Graduate Partnerships Program National Institutes of Health
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**C. Pathway to a Successful K99** (*Room C112*)

William Schrader, Ph.D.	Deputy Scientific Director, Intramural Research Branch, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Carol Shreffler, Ph.D.	Program Officer, Training and Career Development Program National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

**D. Finding Your Career Path** (*Room C111-A*)

Diane Klotz, Ph.D.	Director, Office of Training and Academic Services Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
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**CV/Résumé Consultations** (*B Atrium*)

**Visit Company Exhibits** (*Lakeside Hallway*)

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**11:40 – 12:25**     **Networking Lunch** (*Rooms C111-ABC, C112, C113, C114, B Atrium*)

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# Detailed Agenda

## 12:25 – 1:10 Session II: Panels (Concurrent Sessions)

### A. Faculty Careers in Teaching-Intensive Schools (Room C113)

Shweta Trivedi, Ph.D.	Teaching Assistant Professor, Department of Animal Science, North Carolina State University
Jennifer Brigati, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor of Biology, Maryville College
Alyssa Summers, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor of Biology, Sewanee University

### B. Regulatory Affairs (Room C114)

Erika Pfeiler, Ph.D.	Microbiologist, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration
Ayoola Aboyade-Cole, Ph.D.	Regulatory Associate, UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center

### C. Project/Program Management (Room C112)

Nicole Zandy, PhD	Senior Operational Effectiveness Specialist, Quintiles
Thaddeus Schug, Ph.D.	Health Scientist, Extramural Division, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Anastacia Berzat, Ph.D.	Scientific Program Manager, Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research

### D. Careers in Big Pharma (Room C111-A)

Vladimir Grubor, Ph.D.	Scientist, BASF Plant Science
Claudia Generaux, Ph.D.	Investigator, Department of Drug Metabolism & Pharmacokinetics, GlaxoSmithKline
Johannes Freudenberg, Ph.D.	Computational Biologist, GlaxoSmithKline

### CV/Résumé Consultations (B Atrium)

### Visit Company Exhibits (Lakeside Hallway)

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## 1:15 – 2:00 Session III: Panels (Concurrent Sessions)

### A. Faculty Careers in Research-Intensive Schools (Room C111-B)

Marsha Cole, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Louisville
Jennifer Freedman, Ph.D.	Research Scientist, GU Clinical Research, Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University
Chris Geyer, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor, Anatomy and Cell Biology Department, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

### B. Science Communications (Room C111-C)

Camile Grubor, Ph.D.	Technical Grant Writer, Advanced Liquid Logic
Sophie Bolick, Ph.D.	Medical Writer, MedThink Communications

# Detailed Agenda

Anne Knowlton, Ph.D.

Scientific Editor, Cell Press/Elsevier

**C. Science Outreach (Room C112)**

Jonathan Wai, Ph.D.

Psychologist, Writer, and Research Scientist, Duke University Talent Identification Program

Craig Roberts, Ph.D.

Assistant Director of Education, Duke Institute for Brain Science, Duke University

Josh Hall, Ph.D.

Director, Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program, University of North Carolina

Jana Stone, Ph.D.

Scientific Coordinator, Duke Center for Systems Biology, Duke University

**D. Clinical Research (Room C114)**

Elaina Howard, Ph.D.

Clinical Research Scientist, Impact Pharmaceuticals

Linda Grasfeder, Ph.D., RAC

Clinical Pharmacology Associate, ClinPharm Consulting, LLC

Joan P. Packenham, Ph.D.

Director, Office of Human Research Compliance, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

**CV/Résumé Consultations (B Atrium)**

**Visit Company Exhibits (Lakeside Hallway)**

**2:05 – 2:50**

**Session IV: Panels (Concurrent Sessions)**

**A. The Business of Science (Room C113)**

Jeff Sunman, Ph.D.

Patent Agent, Alston & Bird LLP, Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Patents Group

Morten Jensen, Ph.D.

Licensing Associate, North Carolina State University

Stephanie Miller, Ph.D.

Licensing Associate, University of Virginia Licensing & Ventures Group

**B. Careers in Small Biotech (Room C114)**

Brante Sampey, Ph.D.

Study Director, Metabolon Inc.

Patrick Robertson, Ph.D.

Scientist II, Fujifilm Diosynth Technologies

Stuart Williams, Ph.D.

Research Scientist, Liquidia Technologies Inc.

Kelly Mercier, Ph.D.

Applications Scientist, LipoScience

**C. Federal Careers (Room C112)**

Kelley Spence, Ph.D.

Environmental Engineer, US Environmental Protection Agency

John Cowden, Ph.D.

Biologist, US Environmental Protection Agency

# Detailed Agenda

Jade Mitchell-Blackwood, Ph.D.

Risk Analyst, Risk Assessment Division, Office of  
Public Health Science, USDA

**D. Field Applications/Sales (C111-A)**

Andres Larrea, Ph.D.

Field Application Specialist, Pacific Biosciences

Peter Miller, Ph.D.

Field Sales Manager, GE Healthcare Life Sciences

Jacob Sawyer, Ph.D.

Advanced Imaging Specialist, Nikon Instruments  
Inc.

**CV/Résumé Consultations (B Atrium)**

**Visit Company Exhibits (Lakeside Hallway)**

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**2:55 – 3:40      Networking Reception (Rooms C111-ABC, C112, C113, C114, B Atrium)**

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**3:40 – 5:00      Session V: Workshops (Concurrent Sessions)**

**A. The Industry Job Search: Navigating Towards your Next Opportunity (Room C111-AB)**

Diane Klotz, Ph.D.

Director, Office of Training and Academic Services  
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute

**The Industry Job Search: Elements of a Modern Job Application (Room C111-AB)**

Angela Stewart

District Manager, Kelly Scientific Resources

**B. Converting Your CV into a High Impact Résumé (Room C114)**

Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC

Associate Director, UNC Office of  
Postdoctoral Affairs  
Owner & Consultant, Careers in Bloom

**C. Interviewing & Negotiating an Offer (Room C112)**

Melanie Sinche, NCC

Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs  
Harvard University

**CV/Résumé Consultations (B Atrium)**

**Visit Company Exhibits (Lakeside Hallway)**

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# Sponsors



# NIEHS

## National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

**National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)**

*111 T.W. Alexander Drive*

*Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709*

*[www.niehs.nih.gov](http://www.niehs.nih.gov)*

Human health and human disease result from three interactive elements: environmental factors, individual susceptibility and age. The mission of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is to reduce the burden of human illness and dysfunction from environmental causes by understanding each of these elements and how they interrelate. The NIEHS achieves its mission through multidisciplinary biomedical research programs, prevention and intervention efforts, and communication strategies that encompass training, education, technology transfer and community outreach.



**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences**

# Sponsors



## Working Together for a Cleaner Environment

The Environmental Protection Agency's campus in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina is home to one of the world's largest groups of scientists, engineers, policy makers and administrators dedicated to understanding and solving environmental problems.

*The mission of the Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and the environment. Since 1970, EPA has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people. EPA leads the nation's environmental science, research, education and assessment efforts.*



**Develop and enforce regulations:** EPA works to develop and enforce regulations that implement environmental laws enacted by Congress. EPA is responsible for researching and setting national standards for a variety of environmental programs, and delegates to states and tribes the responsibility for issuing permits and for monitoring and enforcing compliance. Where national standards are not met, EPA can issue sanctions and take other steps to assist the states and tribes in reaching the desired levels of environmental quality.

**Offer financial assistance:** In recent years, between 40 and 50 percent of EPA's enacted budgets have provided direct support through grants to State environmental programs. EPA grants to States, non-profits and educational institutions support high-quality research that will improve the scientific basis for decisions on national environmental issues and help EPA achieve its goals.

**Perform environmental research:** At laboratories located throughout the nation, the Agency works to assess environmental conditions and to identify, understand, and solve current and future environmental problems; integrate the work of scientific partners such as nations, private sector organizations, academia and other agencies; and provide leadership in addressing emerging environmental issues and in advancing the science and technology of risk assessment and risk management.

**Sponsor voluntary partnerships and programs:** The Agency works through its headquarters and regional offices with over 10,000 industries, businesses, non-profit organizations, and state and local governments, on over 40 voluntary pollution prevention programs and energy conservation efforts. Partners set voluntary pollution-management goals; examples include conserving water and energy, minimizing greenhouse gases, slashing toxic emissions, re-using solid waste, controlling indoor air pollution, and getting a handle on pesticide risks. In return, EPA provides incentives like vital public recognition and access to emerging information.

**Further environmental education:** EPA advances educational efforts to develop an environmentally conscious and responsible public, and to inspire personal responsibility in caring for the environment.



## Sponsors



### **Burroughs Wellcome Fund**

*21 T.W. Alexander Drive  
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709  
[www.bwfund.org](http://www.bwfund.org)*

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is an independent private foundation dedicated to advancing the biomedical sciences by supporting research and other scientific and educational activities. Within this broad mission, BWF seeks to accomplish two primary goals – to help scientists early in their careers develop as independent investigators, and to advance fields in the basic biomedical sciences that are undervalued or in need of particular encouragement.

For information on our grant programs and resources for career development, please visit our website at: **[www.bwfund.org](http://www.bwfund.org)**

# Networking Opportunities

As you will hear throughout the day, networking is an integral part of career development and searching for a job. Therefore, we have made every effort to allow you as many opportunities as possible to expand your professional network during today's career fair. Below are three different ways you will be able to network with the panelists and exhibitors.

## **Networking Lunch: 11:40-12:25**

Grab a sandwich and some chips, and feel free to politely seek out a panelist or speaker and learn about their organization and career.

## **Networking Reception: 2:55-3:40**

What better way to meet new people and learn about different careers than over coffee and a cookie! This networking session will bring together all participants, panelists, speakers, and exhibitors for a 45-minute networking reception in the afternoon.

**Visiting Exhibitor Booths:** Throughout the day, representatives from several organizations in the area will be set up in the Lakeside Hallway. Be sure to ask them about their science and what sorts of jobs their company has for PhD level scientists. Exhibitors are not conducting interviews or accepting applications during the career fair, but knowing someone on the inside can be very valuable when it does come time to apply for a position.



# CV/Résumé Reviews

CV and Résumé consultations will be conducted by appointment throughout the day with career services experts. Please follow these directions to make your appointment:

1. Sign up for your appointment in the morning on the board in the Rotunda by the registration desk.
2. Select **ONE** 15-minute time slot that you prefer.
3. Write your name in a single time slot.
4. Take the sticker with the corresponding appointment time.
5. **Please keep your appointment.** If you cannot keep your appointment, speak to a volunteer at the registration desk or in the B atrium.

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## CV/Résumé Consultants

### **Patricia Phelps, Ph.D.**

Deputy Director  
National Institutes of Health Graduate  
Partnerships Program  
patricia.phelps@nih.gov

### **Diane Klotz, Ph.D.**

Director  
Office of Training and Academic Services  
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research  
Institute  
dklotz@sanfordburnham.org

### **Rachel N. Murrell, Ph.D.**

President  
ECU Post Doctoral Association  
Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina  
University  
murrellr@ecu.edu

### **Denise E. Saunders, Ph.D.**

Career Counselor  
Office of Intramural Training and Education  
NIH  
saundersd2@mail.nih.gov

### **Melanie Sinche, NCC**

Director  
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs  
Harvard University

### **Molly Starback, MSLS**

Director

Office of Postdoctoral Services  
Duke University  
molly.starback@duke.edu

### **Patrick Brandt, Ph.D.**

Director of Science, Training, and Diversity  
University of North Carolina  
pdbrandt@email.unc.edu

### **Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC**

Associate Director  
UNC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs  
Owner & Consultant, Careers in Bloom  
dwgrant@email.unc.edu

# Lunch

This lunch is a great opportunity for you to meet the panelists, workshop presenters and exhibitors, and expand your professional network.

If you pre-registered on-line you will be given a ticket for lunch when you pick up your career fair package from the registration desk. Lunch will be buffet style in the alcove behind the registration desk. Please put your ticket in the beaker next to the lunch line.

If you were on the registration waitlist or did not pre-register, we regret that we cannot guarantee you a lunch. However, if there are lunches remaining after 12:10 PM you will be welcome at that time to take a lunch. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Once you have your lunch, please feel free to politely seek out a panelist or speaker and learn about their organization and career.

# Keynote Address

## ***“Surviving Your Stupid, Stupid Decision to Go to Grad School”***

9:00 - 10:00 AM Room C111-ABC

Introduction by Darshini Trivedi, Ph.D., Co-Chair, 2012 NIEHS Career Fair Committee



**Adam J. Reuben, Ph.D.**

Adam Ruben is a writer, comedian, storyteller, and molecular biologist. He received his B.A. from Princeton University in 2001 and his Ph.D. in Biology from Johns Hopkins University in 2008, following which he wrote the book "Surviving Your Stupid, Stupid Decision to Go to Grad School" (Random House, 2010). In addition to his day job, developing a malaria vaccine at Sanaria Inc. in Rockville, Maryland, Adam has performed stand-up comedy for over a decade and writes the humor column "Experimental Error" in the otherwise respectable journal Science. He has been seen and heard on the Food Network's "Food Detectives," the Science Channel's "Head Rush," and NPR's "All Things Considered," and his one-man show, "Please Don't Beat Me Up: Stories and Artifacts from Adolescence" was recently named one of the top five solo shows of 2011 by Maryland Theatre Guide. Learn more at [adamruben.net](http://adamruben.net). You can also contact Adam at [adam@adamruben.net](mailto:adam@adamruben.net).

# Session I – Workshops

## **Networking: A Tool for Building Relationships and Exploring Career Options**

10:20 - 11:40 AM Room C113

### **Presented by Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC**

Moderator: Darshini Trivedi, Ph.D.

Networking is one of the most effective approaches to getting your career on the fast track. Yet, for a variety of reasons (e.g., shyness, fear of appearing pushy or disingenuous), most of us fail to make networking an active part of our ongoing career development.

In this workshop, participants will learn the keys to tactful networking along with easy-to-use strategies for face-to-face networking, corresponding via email, and the appropriate use of social media. This workshop is ideal for anyone interested in using networking as a tool for:

- Gathering information that can help you make better decisions about your career and develop the best course of action for moving you closer to your goals
- Sharing information and resources
- Building mutually beneficial relationships over time

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#### **Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC**

Associate Director, UNC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Owner & Consultant, Careers in Bloom

[dwgrant@email.unc.edu](mailto:dwgrant@email.unc.edu)

Dara Wilson-Grant currently serves as the Associate Director at UNC Chapel Hill's Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA). In her role at OPA, Dara provides personalized individual career counseling to postdoctoral scholars across all disciplines. She is also the owner of Careers in Bloom, where she designs and presents a range of career management workshops and seminars that facilitate personal growth, strategic career planning, and professional advancement.

Dara holds a Master's Degree in Counseling and Personnel Services from Fordham University. She is also a National Certified Counselor with over ten years of experience providing career management education, training, and coaching to students and professionals. Previous roles include, Assistant Director of Career Exploration at UNC Chapel Hill's Career Center; Instructor, UNC's School of Education and MBA Career Counselor and Coach at Rutgers Business School.

# Session I – Workshops

## Differences between Academic, Government, and Industry Job Application Materials

10:20 - 11:40 AM Room C114

### Presented by Patricia Phelps, Ph.D.

Moderator: Ashley Godfrey, Ph.D.

When it comes to applying for academic, government, and industry positions, one size does NOT fit all. In this interactive workshop, participants will learn about how to prepare effective cover letters, CVs, and résumés for the different employment sectors. The workshop will lead participants through the transition of a typical postdoctoral CV into an academic job package, an application for USA jobs, and a Résumé for industry. The workshop will also provide examples of cover letters to accompany each job application. Participants are encouraged to bring their own CV to the workshop to use as an example.

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#### Patricia Phelps, Ph.D.

Deputy Director

National Institutes of Health Graduate Partnerships Program

patricia.phelps@nih.gov

Patricia Phelps is the Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health Graduate Partnerships Program where she develops innovative training programs and workshops in translational medicine, health disparities, professional development and career awareness for post baccalaureates, graduate students and postdoctoral scholars. Prior to joining NIH, Pat was the Founding Director of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's (UNC) School of Medicine Science, Training, and Diversity Office where she directed NIH funded training programs, K-12 science outreach programs, and professional and career development workshops for graduate students.

Patricia received her MS in Toxicology and PhD in Physiology at North Carolina State University. Prior to her academic career, Patricia was Senior Director of Global Product Development and Marketing for a biotechnology company. As the Director of a department comprised of 23 scientists and engineers; Patricia gained extensive experience in mentoring junior scientists, overseeing budgets, developing collaborations, and implementing strategic plans. Patricia has also served on the Board of Directors for several not for profits. Her career experiences in industry, academia, the non-profit sector, and government offer a broad perspective.

## Pathway to a Successful K99

# Session I – Workshops

10:20 - 11:40 AM Room C112

**Presented by William Schrader, Ph.D. and Carol Shreffler, Ph.D.**

Moderator: Sabrina Robertson, Ph.D.

The K99/R00 Pathway to Independence Award offers a unique opportunity for postdoctoral fellows to be supported during the completion of their mentored position as well as during the first 3 years of a tenure-track position. This workshop will provide an overview of the grant mechanism, discuss eligibility requirements, and offer tips on successful K99 grant writing.

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**William Schrader, Ph.D.**

Deputy Scientific Director, Intramural Research Branch  
NIEHS, NIH  
schrader@niehs.nih.gov

Dr. William T. Schrader is a biochemist and molecular endocrinologist. His research interests have dealt with the structure, function and regulation of the steroid receptor superfamily. A native of Long Island, New York, he received the Ph.D. degree in Biology from Johns Hopkins University in 1969, and then did post-doctoral research at Vanderbilt Medical School before joining the faculty at Baylor College of Medicine in 1972. He was appointed Professor of Cell Biology in 1985 and became Assistant Dean of the Graduate School in 1991. He joined Ligand Pharmaceuticals in 1995 as Vice President for Endocrine Research where he directed drug discovery in the areas of female and male sex hormone receptor modulators. Several of these drugs have advanced into human clinical trials. In 2000 he co-founded XenoPharm, Inc. and served as the company's Chief Scientific Officer and Vice President for Research. The company's technical platform commercialized assays based upon proteins of the liver and intestine that sense the presence of foreign small molecules, including drugs and environmental substances. Dr. Schrader joined the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in 2003 as Deputy Scientific Director. In that role he deals extensively with postdoctoral training, and oversees the Office of Fellows' Career Development as well as the Office of Technology Transfer. He is a member of the Laboratory of Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology of NIEHS. His past research interests center on the mechanism of action of tissue-selective non-steroidal androgen receptor modulators and other substances that affect sex hormone developmental pathways. Prior to closing his own research lab in 2009, his studies had identified photo-activable ligands of the androgen receptor that can induce apoptosis only when the cells are irradiated with the appropriate light wavelengths, triggering production of reactive oxygen species and DNA damage. An author of over 100 scientific papers, he has served on numerous editorial boards, study sections and advisory panels for educational, governmental and for-profit organizations.

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**Carol Shreffler, Ph.D.**

Program Officer, Training and Career Development Program  
NIEHS, NIH  
shreffl1@niehs.nih.gov

Dr. Carol Shreffler is the Program Officer for the Training and Career Development Program at NIEHS. Dr. Shreffler is the NIEHS representative on the NIH Training Advisory Committee and the NIH Molecular Libraries and Imaging Roadmap Committee. Dr. Shreffler served for two years as the Co-Chair of the Training Subcommittee (now the Key Function Committee) of the Clinical and Translational Science Awards and on the Re-Engineering the Clinical Research Enterprise Roadmap Committee. Other training related experience includes serving on the Interdisciplinary Workforce Roadmap Committee, the Trans-NIH Neurosciences Blueprint Training Subcommittee, and the K30 Clinical Curriculum Development Steering

## Session I – Workshops

Committee. She is the NIEHS Coordinator for the Diversity and Re-entry supplements program. She is credited with developing and managing the Outstanding New Environmental Scientist Program, a R01 research grant aimed at outstanding new Early Stage Investigators in the Environmental Health Sciences.

Dr. Shreffler's scientific portfolio is the Liver, Kidney and Digestive Systems Toxicology Research and she served on the NIH Liver Disease Subcommittee of the Digestive Diseases Interagency Coordinating Committee.

Dr. Shreffler received the Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Texas Tech University. Following experience as an Aerospace Engineer at Johnson Spacecraft Center, she returned to graduate school and received a PhD in Genetics from Oregon State University. She was in the Intramural Research Program of the NIEHS before joining the Division of Extramural Research and Training as a Scientific Review Administrator. In 1999, she assumed her current position as Director of the Training and Career Development Programs.



# Session I – Workshops

## **Finding Your Career Path**

10:20 - 11:40 AM Room C111-A

### **Presented by Diane Klotz, Ph.D.**

Moderator: Sheppard Martin, Ph.D.

In this session, trainees will participate in a combination of lecture and interactive exercises to identify personal career preferences directly related to their scientific and professional experiences to date. Participants will leave with an idea of available career paths to explore based on each individual's results.

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#### **Diane Klotz, Ph.D.**

Director, Office of Training and Academic Services  
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute  
dklotz@sanfordburnham.org

Dr. Diane Klotz is Director of the Office of Training & Academic Services at the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute in San Diego, CA. In this position Diane oversees scientific career education and training programs for Sanford-Burnham's scientists-in-training. In addition to her program development role, Diane participates in Institute-wide efforts in strategic planning with respect to education and training initiatives, serves as an advisor to executive leadership on education and training issues, and collaborates with Institute leaders to develop training policies. Diane received her PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology from Tulane University. As a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the NIH, Diane's research focused on cross-talk between steroid hormone receptor and growth-factor signaling pathways, primarily in the female reproductive tract. Outside the lab, Diane served as a member and chair of the NIEHS Trainees Assembly Steering Committee, was a member and chair of the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) policy committee, and she subsequently served as a member and chair of the NPA Board of Directors. She remains active with the NPA as a member of both the Strategic Planning committee and NPA Advisory Council. Prior to accepting her current position, Diane was the Director of the NIEHS Office of Fellows' Career Development.

# Session II – Panels Discussions

## Faculty Careers in Teaching-Intensive Schools

12:25 – 1:10 PM Room C113

Moderator: Sabrina Robertson, Ph.D.

This panel will assist future applicants in understanding how to obtain a position at an academic institution with a primary focus on teaching. In this session, you will learn what search committees are looking for and how to sculpt your application to catch their attention. We will explore your major questions such as how much teaching experience is necessary and how can you balance gaining this experience while maintaining your research as a postdoctoral fellow or graduate student? Panelists will discuss their experiences with the application process as well as their experiences serving on search committees yielding excellent advice on even the toughest aspects of composing your application such as what to include in teaching statements and undergraduate driven research plans.

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### **Shweta Trivedi, Ph.D.**

Teaching Assistant Professor  
Department of Animal Science  
North Carolina State University  
strived@ncsu.edu

Dr. Shweta Trivedi received her veterinary degree in 1998 from India's the first premier Land Grant University- GBPUAT University of Agriculture & Technology. She successfully competed for a nationally renowned Junior Research fellowship for Masters of Veterinary Science degree in Veterinary Immunology from Indian Veterinary Research Institute in 2000 during which she investigated the diagnostic potential of culture filtrate proteins released during bovine tuberculosis. She got accepted into the reputed Immunology program at the College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University, Raleigh and completed her dissertation in 2005. Dr. Trivedi went on to do her first postdoctoral fellowship at the Laboratory of Allergic Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (2005-2007) where she extensively studied the effect of parasitic proteins on immunomodulation of conjunctival and pulmonary allergic responses against ragweed pollen. She continued her subsequent postdoctoral fellowship in the Environmental Genetics Group at National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (2007-2009), NIH with Dr. Steven Kleeberger. Here she investigated the role of innate immune response genes like Notch and Jagged in ozone-induced pulmonary inflammation. Dr. Trivedi has written several peer-reviewed research and review articles based on her research. Dr. Trivedi is

currently a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal Science at NCSU where she teaches two courses in Anatomy and Physiology of domestic animals and a unique professional development course for PreVet tracks. Dr. Trivedi is pursuing pedagogical research in the areas of Program Development, Predictors of success of PreVeterinary Tracks as well as the impact of study abroad on PreVeterinary track students. Dr. Trivedi is also the founding Director of VetPAC, the new Veterinary Professions Advising Center which she established at NCSU in 2010. VetPAC provides assistance and advisement to over 600 PreVet track students in applying to College of Veterinary Medicine at NCSU, across the United States as well as internationally. She has developed several internships and leadership programs within VetPAC to provide students with a diversified portfolio of experiences. Her efforts are yielding great results, which are evident from the higher admission rates of PreVet students in the past 2 years.

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### **Jennifer Brigati, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Biology  
Maryville College  
jennifer.brigati@maryvillecollege.edu

Jennifer earned her B.S. in biology from a small private liberal arts institution, and then went on to graduate school at Auburn University with plans to pursue a career in biomedical research. While at Auburn she had the opportunity to TA and found she really enjoyed it, but when she received her Ph.D. in biomedical Sciences she was still leaning

## Session II – Panels Discussions

toward a research career. Jennifer took a postdoctoral position at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Several months after arriving she decided to apply for a tenure track position at a small private liberal arts college located nearby, thinking that with so little experience she would not have a chance at actually getting the position. Jennifer thought that it would be good “practice” to go through the application process. It turned out that she was a perfect fit for the position and institution, and has been at Maryville College for 6 years now. Jennifer has recently been involved in several faculty searches, so she has a strong understanding of what it takes to get a job at a small teaching-centered college.

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**Alyssa Summers, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Biology  
Sewanee University  
arsummer@sewanee.edu

Dr. Summers is currently in her 3rd year in a tenure track position as an Assistant Professor of Biology at The University of the South: Sewanee. She teaches molecular genetics and genomics courses and helps with cell biology. She went straight to graduate school at Vanderbilt University following undergrad at Lawrence University and then did a 3 year post-doc, also at Vanderbilt but in a different department. She majored in Biochemistry as an undergraduate and then did a Ph.D. in Cancer Biology and did a post-doc in Biochemistry with a focus on stem cell differentiation at the genetic level. After her post-doc she taught at the University of the South as a sabbatical leave replacement for a Biochemistry Professor in the Biology Department. During that time an expansion position in Molecular Genetics became available and she applied for that position. This is the position she currently holds.

# Session II – Panels Discussions

## Regulatory Affairs

12:25 – 1:10 PM Room C114  
Moderator: Brant Hamel, Ph.D.

Pharmaceutical development and clinical trials raise many safety concerns. How do we know that the investigational drug or device we are proposing to test or to market will not cause harm? The FDA regulates the ability of investigational drugs, biologics, and devices to be tested in humans and ensures that they are safe and effective before being brought to the market. Regulatory affairs professionals work in industry, academia, and for the government to ensure that all the proper laws and regulations are followed during clinical development. If you are organized and detail-oriented, enjoy writing, and are interested in the clinical testing of drugs and devices then you should come to this panel. You will hear from a variety of regulatory professionals who have started their careers in the past few years.

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### **Erika Pfeiler, Ph.D.**

Microbiologist  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
US Food and Drug Administration  
erika.pfeiler@fda.hhs.gov

As a microbiologist at the FDA, Erika reviews and evaluates scientific submissions associated with new drug applications to determine if the data submitted related to a product's microbial quality are adequate, well-controlled, and sufficient to support the quality of the drug. Erika received her B.S. in Food Science and Technology from the University of Tennessee. Her doctoral work at North Carolina State University examined the genomic basis of bile tolerance in *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. After completing her Ph.D., Erika joined the Commissioner's Fellowship program at the FDA where she received training in food and drug law as well as FDA policies and practices. As part of her fellowship, worked as a reviewer for probiotic and fermentation-derived ingredients for dietary supplements and conducted research involving taxonomic identification methods for commonly used probiotic strains.

submissions and [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) registrations for oncology clinical trials in breast and head & neck cancers. She holds a doctoral degree in Pharmacology/Toxicology from Florida A&M University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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### **Ayoola Aboyade-Cole, Ph.D.**

Regulatory Associate  
UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center  
aacole@med.unc.edu

Ayoola Aboyade-Cole, Ph.D. is a regulatory associate in the Clinical Protocol Office at the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Aboyade-Cole manages regulatory

# Session II – Panels Discussions

## Project/Program Management

12:25 – 1:10 PM Room C112

Moderator: Rachel Goldsmith, Ph.D.

How are projects organized? Who coordinates NIH grants once they have been awarded? What is it like to run programs in industry? We have all enjoyed scientific programs, and this panel is about the people who develop and run them. The Project/Program Management panelists come from a contract research organization, a pharmaceutical company and a government facility, providing a broad variety of perspectives. All of them coordinate and organize scientific information, programs and/or people. To learn more about working in the logistical side of science, please bring your questions to the panel on Project/Program Management.

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### **Nicole Zandy, PhD**

Senior Operational Effectiveness Specialist  
Quintiles  
nicole.zandy@quintiles.com

Nicole Zandy joined Quintiles, a major multinational contract research organization (CRO) with headquarters in Durham, NC, in October 2008 as a Proposal Developer. In her role as a Proposal Developer for Global Sales Operations, she wrote responses to sponsor Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to support clinical trials. She transitioned to the Operational Analysis service area in April 2011. In her current role Nicole is able to leverage her knowledge of Quintiles' people, processes and pricing gained in proposals to the benefit of her current projects. Previously, she was a Grant Writer at Affinergy, Inc, where she wrote Phase I and II SBIR proposals in support of company product development. Nicole received her PhD in Molecular Cancer Biology from Duke in 2008 and earned her BS in Psychology and Biological Sciences from the University of Pittsburgh.

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### **Anastacia Berzat, Ph.D.**

Scientific Program Manager  
Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research  
anastacia.berzat@novartis.com

Anastacia Berzat recently joined Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research as a Scientific Program Manager following completion of a postdoctoral fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Her work includes the development and implementation of training programs for young scientists. Prior to joining NIBR, Anastacia earned a BS in Biology from Florida A&M University where, in addition to her

coursework, she participated in numerous student-led committees including an electoral commission and life science careers organization. She subsequently received her PhD in Genetics and Molecular Biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a focus in elucidating oncogenic signaling pathways. Her work examined the molecular mechanisms utilized by small GTPases in regulating cellular transformation. She was awarded graduate fellowships from the National Cancer Institute and UNC-CH. At Memorial Sloan-Kettering, Anastacia was awarded an American Cancer Society fellowship to investigate the role of Rho GTPases in driving glioma invasion, using 3D and 2D model systems, under the guidance of Professor Alan Hall. Her work has been published in several peer-reviewed journals. Anastacia also completed a program management internship with the New York Academy of Sciences and served as an executive member on several postdoctoral advocacy councils during her fellowship.

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### **Thaddeus Schug, Ph.D.**

Health Scientist, Extramural Division  
NIEHS  
schugt@niehs.nih.gov

Thaddeus Schug received his PhD in nutrition and biomedical sciences from Cornell University. His graduate work focused on the relationships between nuclear hormone receptor activation and various forms of cancer. Thad conducted his postdoctoral studies at the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIH/NIEHS). At NIH, he investigated the sirtuin family of genes which are involved in the aging process, homeostasis, metabolism, and inflammation. Thad is a health scientist assigned

## Session II – Panels Discussions

to the Cellular, Organs, and Systems Pathobiology Branch in the extramural division of NIEHS where he helps with programs in the scientific areas of male and female reproduction, metabolism, the development and disruption of the endocrine systems, and nanotechnology. He also has interest in projects associated with Green Chemistry.

# Session II – Panels Discussions

## Careers in Big Pharma

12:25 – 1:10 PM Room C111-A

Moderator: Cynthia Holley, Ph.D.

Are you looking towards industry as a possible career path? Large companies, including pharmaceutical, chemical, medical device, and biotechnology companies, amongst others, provide a wide variety of career paths for scientists. This panel focuses on career paths for research scientists in these large companies. Two of our panelists are employed at a large pharmaceutical company, and one at a large chemical company. Find out what it is like to work for a large company in industry and what it takes to stand out from the crowd when applying for a job at one. All of our panelists are recent hires who have been through the job-seeking process within the past two years.

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### **Vladimir Grubor, PhD**

BASF Plant Science

vladimir.grubor@basf.com

Dr. Grubor got his PhD in Molecular Genetics at The University of Melbourne in Australia, where he studied the molecular mechanisms of insecticide resistance in insect pests. He rapidly switched gears into cancer genomics and bioinformatics for a postdoc at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in NY. There he learned how to program and applied his genetics and programming skills to study copy number mutations in breast and prostate cancers as well as in chronic lymphocytic leukemia. He moved to Duke University Medical Center for his second postdoc where he worked on bioinformatic analysis of next generation sequencing data to identify mutations in diffuse B-cell lymphoma. Last year, Dr. Grubor switched to industry where he got a position as scientist (bioinformatician) at BASF Plant Science. There he applies skills learned during his two postdocs to analyze next generation sequence data among other things.

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### **Claudia Generaux, Ph.D.**

Investigator –DMPK

Enteroendocrine DPU

GlaxoSmithKline

claudia.n.generaux@gsk.com

Dr. Generaux received a B.S. degree in biology from Washburn University in Topeka, KS in 1999. After working in a toxicology laboratory in Kansas City for a year, she joined XenoTech, a contract research organization in Lenexa, KS, where she worked as a scientist in the drug inhibition group for four years. In 2005 she joined the Molecular

Pharmaceutics Division of the Eshelman School of Pharmacy, at UNC-Chapel Hill. After obtaining her doctoral degree in 2010, Dr. Generaux joined GlaxoSmithKline where she now works as an Investigator in the Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics group of the Enteroendocrine Discovery Unit.

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### **Johannes Freudenberg, Ph.D.**

Computational Biologist

GlaxoSmithKline

johannes.m.freudenberg@gsk.com

Johannes earned a Masters degree in Biomedical Informatics from Universität Leipzig, Leipzig, Germany, and a PhD in Bioinformatics from the University of Cincinnati, Ohio. He stayed in Cincinnati as a postdoc for a year and did another postdoc at NIEHS, also for about a year. About six months ago, he joined GlaxoSmithKline as a Computational Biologist in their Research & Development organization.



# Session III – Panel Discussions

## Faculty Careers in Research-Intensive Schools

1:15 – 2:00 PM Room C111-B  
Moderator: Staton Wade, Ph.D.

This panel was formed to help future applicants understand the current academic research job market and application process. Panelists are all recent faculty hires with assistant professorships or non-tenure track research faculty positions. They will discuss their recent experiences with the academic job search and starting an academic research lab, as well as experience during their post-doc, which helped prepare them for their current position.

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### **Marsha Cole, Ph.D**

Assistant Professor  
University of Louisville [marcie.cole@louisville.edu](mailto:marcie.cole@louisville.edu)

Marsha Cole obtained her Bachelor's and Master's in Chemistry, and Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Dr. Cole began her postdoctoral research at the University of Alabama, Birmingham and was supported by an NRSA fellowship in Endocrinology at the University of Pittsburgh. In addition, Dr. Cole was the 2009-10 Hartwell Fellow (supported by The Hartwell Foundation) at the University of Pittsburgh, a prestigious honor, appointed by the Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. In January 2009, she joined the Department of Pharmacology & Chemical Biology at the University of Pittsburgh as an instructor and was promoted to Research Assistant Professor in 2010. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Louisville. Dr. Cole's research is funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the NIH, and her findings have become important scientific contributions leading to more than 25 publications in high impact journals such as *Circulation Research* and *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

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### **Jennifer Freedman, Ph.D.**

Research Scientist  
Duke University  
[jennifer.freedman@duke.edu](mailto:jennifer.freedman@duke.edu)

Dr. Freedman received her B.S. in Biology from Emory University. After an undergraduate research experience studying sensory organ development in *Drosophila melanogaster*, Dr. Freedman went on to earn a Ph.D. in Genetics and Molecular Biology from Emory University

where she conducted research on spontaneous and transcription-stimulated mitotic recombination in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. During her graduate work, Dr. Freedman became interested in cancer biology and pursued her postdoctoral studies at Duke University Medical Center. There her work focused on elucidating the mechanism determining specificity of E2F activation and repression, utilizing gene expression and pathway signatures to characterize the complexity of human melanoma, and developing a methodology for utilization of predictive genomic signatures in formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded samples. The latter two studies were performed in collaboration with Doug Tyler, MD, Director of the Melanoma Program at Duke Cancer Institute. This work inspired Dr. Freedman to pursue a career as a research scientist with a clinician. She is currently a research scientist in the Genitourinary Clinical Research group at Duke Cancer Institute directed by Dan George, MD.

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### **Chris Geyer, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor  
East Carolina University  
[geyercc@ecu.edu](mailto:geyercc@ecu.edu)

After graduating from Virginia Tech in 1995 with a B.S. in biology, Dr. Geyer began his research career as a laboratory technician, working for four years at two small biotechnology companies. It was during this time that he realized he wanted to plan experiments rather than just perform them, so he left to attend graduate school in 2000. He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in the Department of Cellular and Structural Biology while studying epigenetic regulation of testis-specific gene expression. After a postdoctoral fellowship with Dr. Mitch Eddy in the Laboratory of Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology at

## Session III – Panel Discussions

the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Dr. Geyer started his own laboratory in the summer of 2010 at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology. His long-term research goal is to identify mechanisms regulating the differentiation of both Sertoli and germ cells during spermatogenesis in the mouse.

# Session III – Panel Discussions

## Science Communications

1:15 – 2:00 PM Room C111-C

Moderator: Maria Shatz, Ph.D.

Do you have exceptional written and oral communication skills? Are you interested in pursuing a career, which gives you the opportunity to use these skills every day? Career opportunities in science communications encompass a variety of areas from medical writing to journal editing and grant writing. Come listen and learn from our panel discussion about how to train, transition, and be successful in obtaining a career in the science communications field.

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### **Camile Grubor, Ph.D.**

Technical Grant Writer  
Advanced Liquid Logic  
cgrubor@liquid-logic.com

Camile is originally from Brazil, where she received a B.S. degree in Pharmacy and Biochemistry and M.S. degree in Molecular and Cell Biology from "Universidade de São Paulo-USP". As a graduate student, she studied DNA repair and apoptosis, two cellular mechanisms that impede cancer development, and received her Ph.D. degree in Biology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Camile did her post-doctoral studies at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, where she applied innovative stem cell-based mouse models and RNA interference to temporally and reversibly regulate cancer genes expression in live mice. She then completed a second post-doc at Duke University and discovered that defects in apoptosis increases the selection of antifungal resistant *Cryptococcus neoformans* strains. She started as a Technical Grant Writer at Advanced Liquid Logic, Inc. in July of 2011 and is developing small business SBIR research proposals from conducting strategy calls through final submissions.

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### **Sophie Bolick, Ph.D.**

Medical Writer  
MedThink Communications  
Sophie\_bolick@yahoo.com

Dr. Bolick is a Medical Writer with MedThink SciCom, a healthcare communications agency, located in Raleigh, NC. Prior to this position, she was a postdoctoral fellow in the Molecular and Genetic Epidemiology Group at NIEHS. While at

NIEHS, Dr. Bolick was a regular contributor to the Environmental Factor. Dr. Bolick worked in the field of molecular immunology as a graduate student at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute in Tampa, FL, and received her PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of South Florida College of Medicine in 2006. She earned her MSc in Medical Biology from the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

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### **Anne Knowlton, Ph.D.**

Scientific Editor  
Cell Press/Elsevier  
annelknowlton@gmail.com

Anne Knowlton joined Cell Press in 2011 as a scientific editor for the journals Current Biology and Developmental Cell. In this role, Anne oversees the peer review process – deciding (along with the rest of the editorial team on each journal) which papers are sent out for review, which reviewers are invited to review them, and making the final decisions after peer review. She also commissions and edits review material for both journals. Traveling to conferences, and visiting universities and research institutes is also a significant part of her position. Previously, Anne was a postdoc at the University of Washington in Seattle in the Department of Biochemistry. Anne received her PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics in 2009 from the University of Virginia, and her BS in Biological Sciences from Clemson University in 2004.

# Session III – Panel Discussions

## Science Outreach

1:15 – 2:00 PM Room C112

Moderator: Teresa Green, Ph.D.

There are many opportunities across all sectors (academia, government, industry, and nonprofit) for scientists that are interested in a career in science outreach. The goal of science outreach is to promote and improve a broader understanding of science and technology, which is vital to our local and global communities. If you are interested in public education and outreach, then this career path is one that you should explore. Come listen and learn from our panel discussion about how to pursue, transition, and succeed in a career in science outreach.

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### Jonathan Wai, Ph.D.

Psychologist, Writer, and Research Scientist  
Duke University Talent Identification Program  
jwai@tip.duke.edu

Jonathan Wai, Ph.D., is a psychologist, writer, and research scientist at the Duke University Talent Identification Program and an expert on multiple issues surrounding the development of intellectual and creative talent. He earned his doctorate in psychology from Vanderbilt University where he taught at Peabody College. His work has been highlighted by the New York Times, Scientific American, Reuters, Wired, Forbes, The Chronicle of Higher Education, National Review, The New Republic, and Education Week and has been discussed in reports by the National Academy of Sciences, National Science Board, and the journal Science. Dr. Wai has been awarded multiple international Mensa Awards for Research Excellence for his work on intelligence and creativity and serves on the board of directors of the MATHCOUNTS Foundation. He lives with his wife, dog, and two cats in Durham, North Carolina.

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### Craig Roberts, Ph.D.

Assistant Director of Education  
Duke Institute for Brain Science  
Duke University  
Craig.Roberts@Duke.edu

Dr. Roberts received his undergraduate degree from Wofford College, where he studied biology. At the University of Miami he earned his Ph.D. in Neuroscience where he studied taste signaling with Stephen Roper and Nirupa Chaudhari. He then came to Duke to receive post-doctoral training in the Neurobiology Department where he studied the neural mechanisms of feeding

behavior. During his postdoctoral training Dr. Roberts taught at both Duke and UNC Chapel Hill and helped develop a symposium on new directions in teaching and learning. His current research involves developing novel teaching strategies, including the use of technology to facilitate collaborative and immersive learning environments. Craig joined DIBS as a Visiting Lecturer in June, 2010 and became the Assistant Director of Education in January, 2011.

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### Josh Hall, Ph.D.

Director, Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program  
University of North Carolina  
jdhall@unc.edu

Joshua completed his PhD in Microbiology and Immunology at UNC Chapel Hill in 2008. Upon graduation, he received a SPIRE Postdoctoral Fellowship to do research in Dr. Virginia Miller's lab at UNC and also pursue science education and teaching training. In 2010 Josh joined the Science, Training and Diversity arm of the Office of Graduate Education in the UNC School of Medicine. There he is Director of the UNC Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP - med.unc.edu/prep), an NIH-funded training program for students from under-represented groups who desire to pursue a PhD in the biomedical sciences. PREP scholars spend a year at UNC participating in full-time research and gaining other skills necessary for entry into and success in top PhD programs. In addition, Joshua directs K-12 Science Outreach Initiatives in the School of Medicine including North Carolina DNA Day (ncdnaday.org), an annual event highlighted by over 100 graduate student and postdoctoral scientists visiting high school classrooms across the state of North Carolina to

## Session III – Panel Discussions

present an interactive lesson on an aspect of genetics. This also provides opportunities for high school students to meet and interact with a young scientist, often demystifying science as a career path.

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**Jana Stone, Ph.D.**

Scientific Coordinator

Duke Center for Systems Biology

Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

[jana.stone@duke.edu](mailto:jana.stone@duke.edu)

Dr. Stone is the Scientific Coordinator for the Duke Center for Systems Biology at Duke University. She is responsible for developing education and outreach programs, planning Center events, program evaluation, communications, and facilitating collaborations with national and international partners. Before accepting her current position in 2011, Dr. Stone was a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), where her research focused on DNA replication and mutagenesis. While at NIEHS, she was a member of the NIEHS Trainees Assembly Steering Committee, the NIEHS Biomedical Career Fair Planning Committee and a number of outreach programs. Dr. Stone earned a B.S. in Microbiology from Indiana University and a Ph.D. in Genetics and Molecular Biology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

# Session III – Panel Discussions

## Clinical Research

1:15 – 2:00 PM Room C114

Moderators: Stella Palli, Ph.D.

Career opportunities in clinical research encompass a variety of positions and specialty areas, such as medical monitors, clinical research associates, project and data managers, etc. Are you interested in applying new basic science and technology discoveries to human health and treatment of disease? Do you envision yourself in a job that involves clinical trial management? Come listen and learn from our panel discussion about how to train, transition, and be successful in a clinical research career.

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### **Elaina Howard, Ph.D.**

Clinical Research Scientist  
Impact Pharmaceuticals

Elaina Howard, PhD, is a Clinical Research Scientist at Impact Pharmaceutical Services. Prior to joining Impact, Dr. Howard worked as a Senior Editor for American Journal Experts and a Clinical Data Associate for Rho, Inc. In addition, she recently served as President of the Graduate Women in Science RTP chapter. Dr. Howard has 2 years of post-doctoral training in neurology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During this appointment, she established the electrophysiology division of the laboratory and served as the lead investigator, studying the effects of prenatal cocaine or autism on reward functioning. While pursuing her PhD, Dr. Howard investigated the effects of alcohol administration and related cues on the reward circuitry of the brain. During her accomplished academic career, Dr. Howard authored and co-authored many publications, gave talks at national conferences, and served on the national membership committee for the Research Society on Alcoholism. She received a BS in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of Texas at Austin. When she's not at work in industry, Dr. Howard teaches power vinyasa flow yoga and spends time with her husband, Eddie, and their Boston Terrier, "Professor".

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### **Linda Grasfeder, Ph.D., RAC**

Clinical Pharmacology Associate  
ClinPharm Consulting, LLC  
llgrasfeder@gmail.com

Linda is a Clinical Pharmacology Associate with ClinPharm Consulting, LLC. She helps clients

develop and advance new compounds, assisting the design, management, analysis, and reporting of non-clinical and clinical studies, particularly those involving pharmacokinetics. Prior to her current position, she worked as a Clinical Research Coordinator with the Department of Radiology at Duke University managing an Investigator-initiated Phase 1 clinical study. Linda was a post-doctoral fellow in genomics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 2008-2010, and she earned her Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Cancer Biology from Duke University in 2007.

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### **Joan P. Packenham, Ph.D.**

Director, Office of Human Research Compliance  
NIEHS  
packenhm@niehs.nih.gov

Dr. Packenham established the NIEHS Office of Human Research Compliance in 2008 and has provided the necessary expertise and visionary leadership to develop a successful human research protection program (HRPP) for the NIEHS. In addition, under her leadership, NIEHS has increased its visibility on the NIH main campus in the area of human research protections; and the NIEHS HRPP serves as one of the model programs for NIH, as the organization prepares for national accreditation of its Human Research Protection Program. Dr. Packenham has served on the NIEHS IRB since 2005 and was appointed as its Vice-Chair in 2008. In addition, she has been intimately involved in NIH policy development and has served on several Trans-NIH Committees as NIH prepares for AAHRPP accreditation. Prior to joining the NIEHS Clinical Research Program, Dr. Packenham served as the Program Director for the Director's Challenge Translational Research

## Session III – Panel Discussions

Program in the NIEHS Division of Intramural Research; a multi-disciplinary program designed to integrate patient-oriented (clinical) or public health research with basic biological and mechanistic studies in an effort to understand how environmental exposures modulate or regulate physiological processes that may lead to human disease. In addition, Dr. Packenham has served as a Program Director in the NIEHS Division of Extramural Research and Training. Her scientific grants portfolio included the Environmental Genome Project, Molecular mechanisms of oxidative stress, cell cycle control, DNA repair, apoptosis, mouse genetics and cancer research. During her career, she has received a number of awards. The one she is most proud of is the 2010 National Women of Color in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics award for outstanding Career Achievement in Government. Dr. Packenham received her Bachelor of Science degree (Magna Cum Laude) from North Carolina Central University and her Ph.D. in Experimental Pathology with a concentration in Molecular and Cellular Pathology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine.



# Session IV – Panel Discussions

## The Business of Science

2:05 – 2:50 PM Room C113

Moderator: Bhargavi Rao, Ph.D.

The most important thing for a biotech company is being able to own its ideas and products and declare the ownership without fear of that idea being stolen by another company. What does an entrepreneur do to protect his intellectual property? He files a patent. A patent agent is a very important person who has knowledge of the ins and outs of the patent business and can save the company a lot of time and money. Do you want to know how to become a patent agent? Our panel features three young patent agents that have a scientific research background but are now utilizing their knowledge in patent offices.

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### **Morten Jensen, Ph.D.**

Licensing Associate  
North Carolina State University  
mbjensen100@gmail.com

Morten did his Ph.D. research at The Sainsbury Laboratory, studying mechanisms of RNA silencing in plants, and went on to study genome-wide protein-chromatin interaction as a postdoc at UNC-Chapel Hill. At UNC, he completed an internship at the Office of Technology Development and participated in the Launching the Venture program at the Kenan-Flagler Business School. Morten then joined UNC Greensboro's Office of Innovation Commercialization as Licensing Associate. He is currently licensing associate at NC State University where he manages intellectual property in the areas of plant varieties, biotechnology, agriculture, and life sciences.

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### **Stephanie Miller, Ph.D.**

Licensing Associate  
University of Virginia Licensing & Ventures Group  
Stephanie@uvapf.org

Stephanie A. Miller, Ph.D., joined the Patent Foundation as a licensing associate in July 2009. She evaluates and markets technologies primarily in the areas of biochemistry, biotechnology, cell biology and medical devices. Miller also manages the licensing of reagents such as antibody hybridomas, transgenic mice and expression plasmids. Before joining the Patent Foundation full time, Miller served for two years as a licensing intern at the foundation, assisting in evaluating patentability, searching for prior art and marketing while completing her graduate studies at the University of Virginia. Miller received her Ph.D. in

October 2009 from the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics in the laboratory of P. Todd Stukenberg, Ph.D. Miller received a master's degree from U.Va. in 2006 and a bachelor's degree with distinction from the University of Delaware in 2003. Her undergraduate research was performed in the laboratory of Mary C. Farach-Carson, Ph.D., in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Delaware.

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### **Jeff Sunman, Ph.D.**

Patent Agent  
Alston & Bird LLP  
Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Patents Group  
jeffrey.sunman@alston.com

Dr. Sunman is a patent agent in the Research Triangle office of Alston & Bird LLP. He received his B.S. in Biology from Stetson University and his Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Mercer University. Dr. Sunman first completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the School of Pharmacy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, studying changes in hepatic enzyme activity in hepatitis C virus-infected liver, as well as the role of arachidonic acid-metabolizing cytochrome P450 enzymes in the survival of primary hepatocytes. He then completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Laboratory of Molecular Carcinogenesis at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, using structure-function analyses to identify novel mechanisms by which proteases in the tumor microenvironment induce cancer cell migration during metastasis.

Dr. Sunman joined the Research Triangle office of Alston & Bird LLP as a patent agent in June 2010 after passing the U.S. Patent and Trademark

## Session IV – Panel Discussions

Office Registration Exam (Patent Bar) during his postdoctoral fellowship at NIEHS. As a member of the Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Patents Group, he is involved in patent drafting and patent prosecution in the areas of biotechnology, pharmacology and life sciences.

Alston & Bird is one of the nation's top ranked law firms for intellectual property, is the only law firm to be on FORTUNE's "Best Companies to Work For" list for 13 consecutive years, and was one of Carolina Parenting's "Top 50 Family-Friendly Companies" in 2011.

# Session IV – Panel Discussions

## Careers in Small Biotech

2:05 – 2:50 PM Room C114

Moderator: Cynthia Holley, Ph.D.

A wide range of companies can be categorized as “small biotech,” specializing in biotechnology, nanotechnology, medical devices and other areas. These companies offer a wide range of career opportunities in the biosciences. Our panelists have all transitioned recently from their graduate or postdoctoral positions into their current jobs at four different small biotech companies. Attend this panel to find out their perspectives on what it is like to work for a small biotech company, why they decided to choose this career path, and how they obtained employment in today’s economy.

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### **Brante Sampey, Ph.D.**

Study Director  
Metabolon Inc.  
BSampey@metabolon.com

Dr. Sampey is currently a Study Director at Metabolon, the world’s leader in metabolomics research. He obtained his PhD in Molecular and Environmental Toxicology from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (Denver) with a focus on chemical-induced liver injury. Brante was recruited to UNC-Chapel Hill for a translational postdoctoral fellowship with Dr. David G. Kaufman, a world expert in molecular carcinogenesis and gynecologic malignancies; receiving competitive fellowships through the NCI and the NIEHS. Brante’s postdoctoral research focused on the molecular mechanisms of estrogen-induced endometrial carcinogenesis, specializing in minority health disparities and nutritional adjuvants enhancing traditional chemotherapeutics. Dr. Sampey more recently focused his training to understand the etiologic factors contributing to gynecologic malignancies, i.e. obesity and inflammation, and was honored by being selected for the cover article for Obesity journal (Nature Publishing Group, 2011). Brante has aligned himself with several national scientific societies as well as local societies (e.g. NC-Society of Tox, UNC IP assessment team, NC Center for Entrepreneurial Development) as a means to develop his professional and personal networks in diverse fields of science as well as business. Leveraging his diverse experience and networks, Brante recently transitioned from an academic postdoc position into a Study Director role in a growing biotech company that has established itself as the world leader in global biochemical profiling (untargeted metabolomics). By targeting a growing biotech company, his goal

was to engage a more dynamic role within a company serving diverse clients in the health research space. In this position Dr. Sampey has several roles including project manager and client liaison (academic, government, pharma), as well as diverse marketing and sales roles; all in support of his passion to positively affect human health.

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### **Patrick Robertson, Ph.D.**

Scientist II  
Fujifilm Diosynth Technologies  
patrick.robertson@fujifilmdb.com

Patrick Robertson received B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Biochemistry from N.C. State University in 2003. After graduation, he began working as an Associate in the Protein Stability Group at Diosynth Biotechnology. In 2005, he left to attend Vanderbilt University where he received a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences in the laboratory of Dr. Brandt Eichman. While in graduate school, his work focused on structurally characterizing proteins involved in eukaryotic DNA replication by NMR. After receiving his Ph.D. in 2010, Dr. Robertson worked as an IRTA post-doctoral fellow under Dr. Scott Williams in the Laboratory of Structural Biology at NIEHS where his research focused on crystallizing DNA end processing proteins. In 2011, he left NIEHS for a position at Fujifilm Diosynth Biotechnologies in the Biotech Development department. He currently works as a Scientist II in the Purification Group, developing clinical and commercial manufacturing processes for biological drug products.

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### **Stuart Williams, Ph.D.**

Research Scientist  
Liquidia Technologies Inc.  
stuart.williams@liquidia.com

## Session IV – Panel Discussions

Stuart Williams is currently a scientist at Liquidia Technologies in Research Triangle Park, NC. Stuart received his B.S. from James Madison University in 2005 and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2010 under the direction of Joseph DeSimone. His Ph.D. work was in materials and polymer chemistry with a focus on the fabrication of materials for organic photovoltaics and other applications. After graduating from UNC, he started work at Liquidia Technologies in 2010. Liquidia is a biotech company that is developing an engineered particle-based fabrication technology for a variety of applications from vaccines and therapeutics to materials science.

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### **Kelly Mercier, Ph.D.**

Applications Scientist  
LipoScience  
[kelly.mercier@liposcience.com](mailto:kelly.mercier@liposcience.com)

Dr. Kelly Mercier is an applications scientist at LipoScience in Raleigh, NC, where she is developing new commercially viable assays for diagnosing and monitoring diseases and disease states in biofluids using NMR spectroscopy. Dr. Mercier is a graduate of Lake Forest College, IL, and University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Her dissertation research focused on structural biology and functional annotation by NMR. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, continuing her work in structural biology with an emphasis of functional assignments of unknown proteins or protein domains.

# Session IV – Panel Discussions

## Federal Careers

2:05 – 2:50 PM Room C112

Moderator: Christina Powers, Ph.D.

What types of positions are available in the federal government? How does one apply for federal positions? This panel was formed to answer these and other questions for those contemplating a career in the federal government. Panelists were selected to provide perspectives from across the spectrum of basic research, to using research to inform regulatory decisions, and finally developing regulations in the federal government. In addition, the panel features individuals who have held their current position for as little as a few months to two years to provide a range of perspectives on the transition to a permanent federal position.

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### **John Cowden, Ph.D.**

Biologist

EPA

cowden.john@epa.gov

Dr. John Cowden is a Biologist in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Center for Environmental Assessment in RTP (NCEA-RTP). In this capacity, he serves as a Chemical Manager within EPA's Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS). Dr. Cowden developed the Toxicological Review for hexachloroethane and is currently Chemical Manager for ethanol and inorganic arsenic (cancer). Dr. Cowden also provides expert scientific review during the development of human health risk assessments. He has drafted sections of several high profile risk assessments, including benzo[a]pyrene and PCBs. As part of his duties, Dr. Cowden regularly communicates with other government agencies, Congress, and public stakeholders.

Prior to joining NCEA-RTP in 2010, Dr. Cowden served postdoctoral fellowships for risk assessment with the EPA's IRIS program (2009-2010), neurotoxicology research in zebrafish at the EPA (2005-2009), and developmental neurobiology in mice at Duke University (2002-2004). He holds a PhD in Molecular Biology and Genetics from the University of California at Berkeley and a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, with a minor in Chemistry, from the College of William and Mary.

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### **Jade Mitchell-Blackwood, Ph.D.**

Risk Analyst, Risk Assessment Division

Office of Public Health Science, USDA

jade.mitchell-blackwood@fsis.usda.gov

Dr. Jade Mitchell-Blackwood has a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. As a graduate student researcher with the Center for Advancing Microbial Risk Assessment, (CAMRA, a Center of Excellence jointly funded by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. EPA), she used the quantitative microbial risk assessment (QMRA) framework to investigate Category A and B bioterrorism agents for the purpose of informing guidelines for exposure, remediation and setting detection limits. Her research included the development of statistical models and decision frameworks for addressing the uncertainties related to managing risks associated with exposure to bioaerosols of these agents. Currently, Dr. Mitchell-Blackwood is a Post-Doctoral Physical Scientist in the National Exposure Research Laboratory (NERL) at the U.S. EPA in Research Triangle Park, NC. She is currently working in exposure modeling research to develop innovative approaches to exposure-based prioritization of chemicals, which fall under the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) for rapid risk screening. Her interests in the project include informing the type, quantity and quality of data or information needed to prioritize chemicals based on exposure potential using statistical and mechanistic models. Dr. Mitchell-Blackwood received a B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and worked in construction management and transportation engineering after graduation. Her work in storm water management motivated her to return to graduate school and to obtain an M.S. in Civil Engineering from Drexel University. She recently accepted a full time permanent position

## Session IV – Panel Discussions

with the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service.

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**Kelley Spence, Ph.D.**

Environmental Engineer

EPA

[spence.kelley@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:spence.kelley@epamail.epa.gov)

Kelley graduated from North Carolina State University in 2007 with a B.S. in Paper Science and Engineering and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. She graduated in 2011 with a PhD in Forest Biomaterial Science and Engineering. As an undergraduate, she interned and co-oped with various companies including Novozymes, Kimberly-Clark, Wyeth, and KapStone Paper and Packaging. She also participated in the EPA's P3 program (People, Prosperity and the Planet Student Design Competition for Sustainability), researching the use of natural surfactants in paper recycling. As a graduate student, she studied microfibrillated cellulose as a potential renewable replacement for petroleum-based composites and plastics. Kelley started her career at the EPA in February of 2011 through the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) in the Natural Resources Group, where she works with the pulp and paper team to review and develop air regulations for the pulp and paper industry. Kelley spends her free time supporting the Carolina Hurricanes and the Wolfpack.

# Session IV – Panel Discussions

## Field Applications/Sales

2:05 – 2:50 PM Room C111-A  
Moderator: Brant Hamel, Ph.D.

Having the right equipment is critical for producing good data. New technologies that can improve our ability to conduct science are constantly arriving on the scene. Sales professionals can help make scientists aware of the latest and greatest tools for the lab. Field applications specialists use their deep scientific knowledge to help train users on new equipment and techniques. If you like being on the cutting edge and enjoy working with a variety of different people, you should attend this panel discussion. You will hear from a variety of sales and field application specialists who have started their careers in the past few years.

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### Andres Larrea, Ph.D.

Field Application Specialist  
Pacific Biosciences  
alarrea.mail@gmail.com

Andy completed his undergraduate work at Florida State University where he received his BS in Chemistry. From there he went back home and started his graduate work at the University of Miami where he worked in the labs of Drs. Richard Myers and Arun Malhotra. His graduate work focused on the nucleases involved in DNA damage repair. Upon completing his work in 2008 he moved up to North Carolina where he joined the lab of Dr. Tom Kunkel in the Laboratories of Structural Biology and Molecular Genetics at the NIH/NIEHS. During his time in Dr. Kunkel's lab he started to work on deep sequencing using next generation sequencing to answer basic biological question of DNA replication. In 2010 he left Dr. Kunkel's lab to join Pacific Biosciences as a Field Applications Scientist. Pacific Biosciences is the first commercial, third generation sequencing company. At PacBio he has worked alongside the customer to try and improve experimental design and data analysis on the PacBio RS.

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### Jacob Sawyer, Ph.D.

Advanced Imaging Specialist  
Nikon Instruments Inc.  
Jsawyer@nikon.net

Dr. Jacob Miguel Sawyer is a native born and bred Texan who received both his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Biology from the University of Houston in 1999 and 2002, respectively. He spent 2 years as a Research Technologist II for

LabCorp in Research Triangle Park performing an exceedingly higher than average number of Southern blots that tested patient DNA for Fragile X syndrome and T&B cell lymphoma. He spent an only slightly higher than average number of years as a graduate student at the University of North Carolina, receiving his Ph.D. in 2010 in the lab of Bob Goldstein for using an RNAi screen to discover new genes required for *Caenorhabditis elegans* gastrulation. He spent one year as a Post-doctoral Fellow at Johns Hopkins University imaging both live and fixed zebrafish and mouse pancreatic tissue in the lab of Steven Leach before taking a position with Nikon Instruments as an Advanced Imaging Specialist. He is happily married and has a nine-month old son.

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### Peter Miller, Ph.D.

Field Sales Manager  
GE Healthcare Life Sciences  
peter.miller@ge.com

Peter is currently a Field Sales Manager within the GE Healthcare Life Sciences Consumables business since February of 2011 where he manages four Account Managers in New England and Metro-NYC. He also manages his own sales of the GE Life Science Consumables products at Johns Hopkins University and the National Institutes of Health in Maryland. Peter joined GE Healthcare Life Sciences in 2008 as an Account Manager selling the AKTA line of chromatography instrumentation as well as the GE scanners and imagers. In 2009 he moved into the newly formed Consumables division selling the Amersham and Whatman brand reagents and consumables.



## Session IV – Panel Discussions

Peter began his career at Roche Diagnostics in Somerville, NJ after receiving his B.S. in Biology from Albright College in 1998. As a Scientist at Roche he developed assays for therapeutic drug monitoring and drugs of abuse testing. Peter left Roche in 1999 to pursue a career in sales at Dionex Corporation. As a field sales representative in Connecticut he managed the sales of the Dionex line of HPLC, IC, and Extraction instrumentation. In 2003 Peter returned to school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he worked in the lab of Dr. Ed Collins. Peter joined GE Healthcare Life Sciences immediately after completing his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Biophysics at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2008.

# Session V – Workshops

## **The Industry Job Search: Navigating Towards your Next Opportunity**

3:40 – 4:20 PM Room C111-AB

### **Presented by Diane Klotz, Ph.D.**

Moderator: Darshini Trivedi, Ph.D.

In this session, trainees will learn about different types of industry positions and various types of company structures. In addition, participants will learn to identify key skills listed in industry job descriptions that they can use in their individual career development plans to ensure that they are prepared and qualified for their position of choice upon finishing their postdoctoral training. Company culture and ensuring a "good fit" will also be discussed.

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#### **Diane Klotz, Ph.D.**

Director, Office of Training and Academic Services  
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute  
dklotz@sanfordburnham.org

Dr. Diane Klotz is Director of the Office of Training & Academic Services at the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute in San Diego, CA. In this position Diane oversees scientific career education and training programs for Sanford-Burnham's scientists-in-training. In addition to her program development role, Diane participates in Institute-wide efforts in strategic planning with respect to education and training initiatives, serves as an advisor to executive leadership on education and training issues, and collaborates with Institute leaders to develop training policies. Diane received her PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology from Tulane University. As a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the NIH, Diane's research focused on cross-talk between steroid hormone receptor and growth-factor signaling pathways, primarily in the female reproductive tract. Outside the lab, Diane served as a member and chair of the NIEHS Trainees Assembly Steering Committee, was a member and chair of the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) policy committee, and she subsequently served as a member and chair of the NPA Board of Directors. She remains active with the NPA as a member of both the Strategic Planning committee and NPA Advisory Council. Prior to accepting her current position, Diane was the Director of the NIEHS Office of Fellows' Career Development.

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## **The Industry Job Search: Elements of a Modern Job Application**

4:20 – 5 PM Room C111-AB

### **Presented by Angela Stewart**

Moderator: Darshini Trivedi, Ph.D.

If you are interested in a position in industry, you do not want to miss this workshop. Most of the larger biotech companies now work through recruiters to hire employees. With hundreds to thousands of people applying for a single position, companies often use recruiters to narrow down the pool of qualified candidates. It is important to make sure that your résumé gets noticed by the recruiter or it may not even make it to the hiring manager. Angela Stewart from Kelly Scientific Resources, one of the most highly used recruiting firms in the world with offices in the RTP area, will be providing you with information on what recruiters look for when they are charged with

# Session V - Workshops

finding the perfect candidate for an industry position, including tips on how to present yourself in a résumé and during an interview.

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**Angela Barbry Stewart**

District Manager

Kelly Scientific Resources

Angela joined the Kelly Scientific Resources team in June 2006, after graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. Prior to joining Kelly Scientific Resources as a scientific recruiter, she gained a wide variety of experience in both sales and the health-care industry. Angela's continuous effort to deliver exceptional customer service, along with her scientific knowledge, helped her match talented individuals to positions in the Triangle area.

# Session V - Workshops

## Converting Your CV into a High Impact Résumé

3:40 – 5:00 PM Room C114

### Presented by Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC

Moderator: Cynthia Holley, Ph.D.

Are you considering a career outside of academia? If so, you will need to convert your curriculum vitae (CV) into a résumé and this session will show you how.

In addition to learning the major differences between an academic CV and résumé, you will learn specific steps and strategies to help you develop a résumé that effectively promotes your qualifications in a way that appeals to a broad audience. Topics covered include:

- Describing your skills and experiences in a way that translates across disciplines and industries
- Tailoring and organizing your information with the reader in mind
- Choosing the right format, layout, and style

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#### **Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC**

Associate Director, UNC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Owner & Consultant, Careers in Bloom

dwgrant@email.unc.edu

Dara Wilson-Grant currently serves as the Associate Director at UNC Chapel Hill's Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA). In her role at OPA, Dara provides personalized individual career counseling to postdoctoral scholars across all disciplines. She is also the owner of Careers in Bloom, where she designs and presents a range of career management workshops and seminars that facilitate personal growth, strategic career planning, and professional advancement.

Dara holds a Master's Degree in Counseling and Personnel Services from Fordham University. She is also a National Certified Counselor with over ten years of experience providing career management education, training, and coaching to students and professionals. Previous roles include, Assistant Director of Career Exploration at UNC Chapel Hill's Career Center; Instructor, UNC's School of Education and MBA Career Counselor and Coach at Rutgers Business School.

# Session V - Workshops

## **Interviewing & Negotiating an Offer**

3:40 – 5:00 PM Room C112

### **Presented by Melanie Sinche, NCC**

Moderator: Ashley Godfrey, Ph.D.

While there is no single interview format for which one can prepare in advance, there are ways to ensure that you are ready for whatever situation presents itself and that you present your best self possible. In this session, trainees will learn how to manage first impressions in an interview situation, what types of questions they can expect to hear from the interviewer, how best to prepare for an interview, and how to follow up after an interview has taken place.

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#### **Melanie Sinche, NCC**

Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs  
Harvard University

Melanie Sinche currently serves as Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University. She is an accomplished career counselor, trainer, and speaker. In addition to building two university career centers for postdoctoral scholars, she has offered career development presentations and training sessions for universities, government agencies, professional associations, and non-profit organizations across the country. Melanie came to Harvard from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) where she served as a Consultant and Career Counselor. In this role, she assisted in the design, planning, and implementation of the first NIH-wide career center for intramural trainees. Her duties included defining services, recruiting staff, developing workshops, creating content for the career center website, and authoring a careers blog for scientists. Prior to working with the NIH, Melanie served as the Founding Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Services at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Melanie earned a Bachelor's degree from Colgate University and a Master's degree from the University of Michigan. Melanie completed a second Master's degree in counseling at North Carolina State University and possesses the National Certified Counselor (NCC) credential.

## Exhibitors



Aerotek Scientific ® LLC, a subsidiary of Aerotek Inc, has scientific and clinical job opportunities in laboratories, universities, medical offices, hospitals and pharmacy environments. Working with nearly 9,000 unique companies, Aerotek Scientific provides immediate access to positions you might have missed by browsing for a job on your own. And we work with many leading organizations to perform all of their hiring, giving you an entry into Fortune 1000 companies. Most importantly, Aerotek Scientific's job opportunities are completely free.

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### **AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships**

<http://fellowships.aaas.org/>

One-year fellowships that seek to foster scientifically informed, evidence-based policy and practice by engaging scientists and engineers from a broad range of disciplines and career stages. A doctoral level degree (or MS in engineering) is required.

# Exhibitors

## *Rho Tau Chapter*



Graduate Women in Science

## **Graduate Women in Science (GWIS)**

*Our mission is to advance the participation and recognition of women in science and to foster research through grants, awards, and fellowships.*

Graduate Women in Science is an interdisciplinary society of scientists that encourage women to enter and achieve success in science through full participation in their scientific research and its applications; in the development and advancement of women; in the integration of their careers, personal goals, and society's needs; and by professional networking and mutual inspiration.

The Rho Tau chapter was established in 2009 in RTP, North Carolina, as a chapter of Sigma Delta Epsilon/Graduate Women in Science ([www.gwis.org](http://www.gwis.org)).

Rho Tau received its charter for establishment of an SDE/GWIS chapter on June 20th 2009 during the National meeting held in Raleigh.

More information about GWIS Rho Tau chapter, including opportunities for women in all areas of the sciences to earn fellowships for research funding, networking, mentorship and social events organized periodically in the RTP area, are listed on the chapter website [www.rhotaugwis.org](http://www.rhotaugwis.org).



## Exhibitors



NLTO stands for the Networking and Leadership Training Organization. Our organization provides information on professional advancement and opportunities for career development for all pre- and post-doctoral trainees working at EPA in Research Triangle Park. In particular, our Brown Bag Seminar Series focuses on issues in science and career development that are of interest to young investigators.

Trainees include postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, guest scientists in training, interns, and undergraduate volunteers working at the EPA in RTP and UNC-Chapel Hill (Human Studies Division). All trainees are encouraged to join! Contact our current president, Nicole Hagan ([hagan.nicole@epa.gov](mailto:hagan.nicole@epa.gov)), or our current vice president, Nisha Sipes ([sipes.nisha@epa.gov](mailto:sipes.nisha@epa.gov)), for more information. Also view our archive of NLTO Newsletters and library of career development resources available on the website at <http://epa.gov/nheerl/nlto/>.



As the world's leading provider of scientific and clinical research workforce solutions, Kelly Scientific Resources® has been connecting scientific professionals with businesses around the world since 1995. Our international reach allows us to meet our clients' global workforce requirements and provide our employees with global career opportunities - all while delivering quality localized service through our more than 100 branch locations. We are a part of Kelly Services®, a US-based Fortune 500 company and a global industry leader in workforce solutions.

# Exhibitors



*turning knowledge into practice*

RTI International is seeking individuals of intellect, creativity, and commitment who understand the vital connection between focused research and social results, who realize that furthering a career in science and study can provide a significant benefit to society.

At RTI, we want you to think independently and act collaboratively -- your research will require the former and our multidisciplinary environment will foster the latter. We are dedicated to improving the human condition by turning knowledge into practice and helping you bring your ideas to bear on a world that needs your drive and your enthusiasm.

## **About RTI**

RTI is an independent, nonprofit institute that provides research, development, and technical services to government and commercial clients worldwide. Our mission is to improve the human condition by turning knowledge into practice.

Established in 1958 as the Research Triangle Institute, RTI has a distinguished history of scientific achievement in the areas of health and pharmaceuticals, education and training, surveys and statistics, advanced technology, international development, economic and social policy, energy and the environment, and laboratory testing and chemical analysis. RTI's staff of more than 2,800 supports projects in more than 40 countries.

## **RTI Health Solutions (RTI-HS)**

A business unit of RTI, is a large and rapidly growing independent and internationally recognized research organization providing health care consulting and research expertise to optimize decision making for pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device products across the development and marketing lifecycle.

For more information, please visit [www.rti.org/careers](http://www.rti.org/careers).

# Exhibitors



The North Carolina Biotechnology Center is a private, non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to biotechnology development for the state. It is headquartered in Research Triangle Park, with regional offices in Asheville, Greater Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Greenville and Wilmington. For more information, please visit <http://www.ncbiotech.org>.

*Two key programs that benefit PhD's and post-doctoral fellows are:*

**Industrial Fellowship Program:** The program is for recent doctoral graduates and postdoctoral fellows who would like to transition from academia to permanent employment in the state's life sciences industry. The Industrial Fellowship Program provides two years of funding for a scientist to work as an employee at a sponsoring company.

The 2012 Industrial Fellowship Program is now taking fellow applications for the following companies:

- Advanced Liquid Logic
- Bayer CropScience
- Gentris Corporation
- Icagen, Inc. (Pfizer)
- PharmAgra Labs

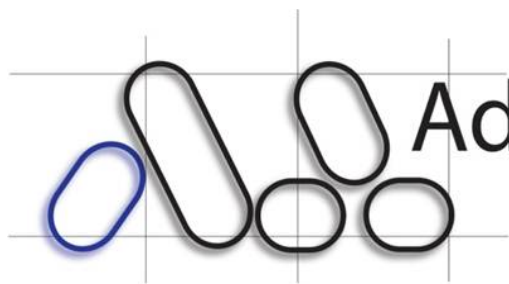
**Please visit <http://www.ncbiotech.org/fellowship> to learn more about this Program, and to submit an application. The deadline is May 3, 2012.**

For questions concerning the NCBC Industrial Fellowship Program, please contact Shobha Parthasarathi at 919-541-9366, or e-mail [ncbcfellowship@ncbiotech.org](mailto:ncbcfellowship@ncbiotech.org).

**Collaborative Funding Grant:** The grant financially supports a university-company partnership by providing funding for a postdoctoral fellow or technician in a university laboratory under the guidance of a principal investigator who will conduct research on a project of commercial interest. The maximum award is \$100,000.

<http://www.ncbiotech.org/research-grants/research-funding/collaborative-funding>

# Exhibitors



## Advanced Liquid Logic

powered by Digital Microfluidics

### Corporate Profile:

Advanced Liquid Logic, Inc. is focused on the development and commercialization of impactful life science products using its proprietary liquid handling technology, digital microfluidics. The company was founded in 2004 as a technology spinout from Duke University's Department of Electrical Engineering by Michael Pollack, PhD and Vamsee Pamula, PhD. Over the past 7 years the company has achieved a dominant intellectual property portfolio around electrowetting-based lab-on-a-chip concepts. At the end of 2011, the company grew to over 65 employees, launched its first two products and became sustainable on product revenue.

The underlying technology, digital microfluidics, is an all-electronic means of controlling precise and programmable liquid handling operations. The technology employs the "electrowetting" effect, which describes the ability of an applied voltage to alter the hydrophobicity of a surface. Using an array of electrodes within a disposable cartridge form factor, ALL's system is capable of generating 100's of data points during a single run, as well as performing complex molecular assay workflows for sample preparation for advanced downstream analytics such as next generation sequencing. A digital microfluidic system comprises an instrument, disposable cartridges, bioassay reagents and a software-based protocol to control on-cartridge droplet operations.

In the coming years, ALL intends to grow its installed base of instruments, increase manufacturing capabilities while achieving ISO 13485 certification and enter new markets in life sciences research, clinical diagnostics and other applied markets. Long term, the company intends to become the world-leader in lab-on-a-chip technologies ensuring that even the most complex bioassay workflows become accessible to the most remote laboratories, clinics and patients.

### Partnering Strategy/Interests:

ALL currently participates in two large markets – clinical diagnostics and life science research. The company is committed to identifying new product opportunities in both areas. More specifically, the company has launch two products – the first in newborn screening of lysosomal storage disease for use in state health labs, and the second in genomics sample preparation, automating a number of protocols used in preparing nucleic acids for high-throughput sequencing.

Partnering has been an essential component of ALL's success to date. We are always looking for relationships that provide one or all of the following: 1) co-development relationships toward the launch of new products employing ALL's technology to automate bioassays; 2) enabling unique bioassay workflows on existing products (in newborn screening and genomics); 3) commercialization relationships to provide increased market exposure for ALL's differentiated products.

### Contact Information:

Contact Name: Sandy Lewis

Title: Vice President of Human Resources

Address 1: 615 Davis Dr., Suite 800

Phone: (919) 287-9010

Address 2: PO Box 14025

Fax: (919) 287-9011

City, State, Zip: Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Email: [slewis@liquid-logic.com](mailto:slewis@liquid-logic.com)

# Exhibitors

**Company:**

Liquidia Technologies is developing highly precise particle-based vaccines and therapeutics for the prevention and treatment of human disease. Combining a deep understanding of particle-based drug development with breakthrough small molecule and biological therapeutics, Liquidia is engineering vaccines and therapies that have the potential to dramatically improve the quality of human life. The company was founded in 2004 and is located in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

**Product Platform:**

Utilizing a novel platform known as PRINT® technology, Liquidia is designing highly specific carriers for delivery of small molecules and biological cargos. This breakthrough platform technology makes it possible for the first time to design vaccines and therapies with precise control of particle size, shape, and composition.

**Overview:**

Liquidia Technologies is developing engineered particle-based vaccines and therapeutics that have the potential to dramatically improve the quality of human life. Utilizing a novel technology known as the PRINT® platform, Liquidia is creating rationally-design carriers for improved delivery of small molecule and biological cargos. By designing highly specific particles that deliver therapies to an intended target, Liquidia is uncovering ways to optimize the safety and efficacy of vaccines and therapeutics. Liquidia's PRINT platform makes it possible for the first time to design particles with independent and precise control of particle size, shape, chemistry, surface functionality, and flexibility. The ability to modify these key particle attributes is allowing Liquidia and its partners to develop more optimized, safe, and effective vaccines and therapies for a wide variety of diseases.

**Contact Information:**

Florina Gordon Krawchick, SPHR  
Director, Human Resources  
Liquidia Technologies, Inc.  
P.O. Box 110085  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709  
Phone: 919-328-4428  
Fax: 919-328-4402  
[florina.gordon@liquidia.com](mailto:florina.gordon@liquidia.com)  
[www.Liquidia.com](http://www.Liquidia.com)

# Exhibitors



NIEHS Trainees Assembly (NTA)  
*National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences*  
111 T.W. Alexander Drive  
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709  
[www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/research/nta](http://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/research/nta)

The NIEHS Trainees Assembly (NTA) is an organization started by fellows and graduate students at the NIEHS in order to foster the professional development of NIEHS trainees. The NTA is comprised of all non-tenured, non-permanent scientists training at the Institute. Due to the diversity of scientists in training at the NIEHS and the broad range of training needs, the NTA organizes and sponsors a variety of activities.

## **NTA Mission:**

1. To cultivate an atmosphere of intercommunication among members.
2. To assist in the orientation of new domestic and international fellows.
3. To organize educational activities both independently and in collaboration with the Office of Fellows' Career Development (OFCD).
4. To inform trainees about opportunities in both bench and non-bench career paths.
5. To promote open communication between trainees and the NIEHS administration by serving as the official liaison.
6. To create opportunities for fellows to receive guidance and mentoring tailored to their career goals by working with the NIEHS administration and OFCD.

## **NTA Steering Committee**

The NTA Steering Committee is made up of fellows and graduate students who volunteer to address the needs of trainees and help organize and lead activities for trainees including: The Annual Career Fair, Science Day (Mentor of the Year), Monthly Career Workshops, Training, Brown Bag Lunches, and Social Events. In addition, NTA Steering Committee members serve on a variety of committees including: the DIR Council, the Assembly of Scientists, the NIH FELCOM, and the OSED Advisory Committee. Participation in the NTA Steering Committee and in subcommittees provides excellent leadership training and networking opportunities. We meet every third Wednesday of the month. Please contact the NTA at [tammy.collins@nih.gov](mailto:tammy.collins@nih.gov) and [darshini.trivedi@nih.gov](mailto:darshini.trivedi@nih.gov) to give us your input and to find out how you can get involved.

# Exhibitors



**The National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL)** is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's focal point for scientific research on the effects of contaminants and environmental stressors on human health and ecosystem integrity. Headquartered in Research Triangle Park, NC, NHEERL is geographically dispersed with research facilities in Chapel Hill, NC; Gulf Breeze, FL; Narragansett, RI; Duluth, MN; and Corvallis, OR. Its research mission and efforts toward its goals help the Agency to identify and understand the processes that affect our health and environment and help the Agency to evaluate the risks that pollution poses to humans and ecosystems.

NHEERL's intramural program consists of toxicological, clinical, epidemiological, ecological, and biogeographic research studies. Scientists define and characterize toxicological hazards, quantify dose response and other important cause-effect relationships, and assess the integrity and sustainability of ecosystems. The laboratory has highly specialized facilities, including high-hazard chemical containment facilities, state-of-the-art inhalation exposure chambers for use in human studies, and programmable growth chambers for terrestrial plant studies.

In addition to its intramural research, NHEERL fosters cooperative research projects with academic and other scientific institutions to complement NHEERL efforts, as well as to insure that the Agency has the benefit of the highest quality peer-reviewed science. NHEERL scientists use collaborative mechanisms to draw on the expertise of preeminent researchers in academia, industry, and other government organizations through cooperative agreements, contracts, and interagency agreements.

**For additional information, please visit [www.epa.gov/nheerl](http://www.epa.gov/nheerl).**



# Exhibitors



# Celplor

A molecular biology CRO company

Celplor LLC is a molecular biology CRO company located at Raleigh, North Carolina. Our mission is to leverage our molecular biology expertise to provide customized solutions to our customers with affordable price and fast turnaround time. Currently, our services include: genotyping, recombinant protein expression and purification, PCR cloning, site-directed mutagenesis, stable cell line development, recombinant virus construction, ES cell PCR screening and Southern validation, BAC modification and ELISA assay development. We welcome Ph.D scientist with entrepreneurial spirit, courage of risk taking and desire to control his/her own destiny to be partner with us to expand market, develop new technologies and establish new lines of services.

## Contact information:

William W. HE, Ph.D

Manager

Celplor, LLC

617 Hutton Street, Suite 101

Tel: 1-919-794-7457

E-mail: [william.wh@celplor.com](mailto:william.wh@celplor.com)

Website: [www.celplor.com](http://www.celplor.com)



# Exhibitors

## **Campbell University**

### **Bachelors in Clinical Research**

A BS in Clinical Research is the ideal degree for students interested in careers in clinical data management, quality assurance, or clinical research administration, and many other positions in the clinical research industry. Students in the program complete extensive internships in preparation for careers in clinical research. Many students gain employment as a result of their internships.

### **Masters in Clinical Research**

According to Clinical Today, the clinical research field is expanding more quickly than ever, and students with a background in clinical research are in high demand. The MS in clinical research program equips students with skills in critical thinking so that they will be prepared for careers in education, industry, medical, and research settings. Campbell University's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences offers an option to pursue joint degrees in both PharmD and MS in clinical research. The expected job outlook is strong for MS in clinical research candidates, as an anticipated 20,100 jobs in the field will open between 2008 and 2018.

# Exhibitors



AMERICAN JOURNAL EXPERTS®

American Journal Experts (AJE) has helped thousands of international researchers to eliminate language barriers and get their work published in the best journals in the world. We provide editing, translation, content review and other associated services to help researchers throughout the publication process. Our Durham-based team is highly credentialed, experienced and educated, yet also embraces a strong sense of fun. Our work environment is casual and collegiate, and the hours are uniquely flexible.

# Acknowledgements

## **2012 NIEHS Biomedical Career Fair Planning Committee**

Ashley Godfrey, Ph.D. Co-Chair  
Darshini Trivedi, Ph.D., Co-Chair

### NIEHS

Bhargavi Rao, Ph.D.  
Staton Wade, Ph.D.  
Stela Palii, Ph.D.  
Rachel Goldsmith, Ph.D.  
Brant Hamel, Ph.D.  
Cynthia Holley, Ph.D.  
Sabrina Robertson, Ph.D.  
Maria Shatz, Ph.D.

### EPA

Sheppard Martin, M.P.H, Ph.D.  
Teresa Green, Ph.D.  
Christina Powers, Ph.D.

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Vijayakanth Pagadala, Ph.D.  
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Sonika Patial, Ph.D.  
Bhargavi Rao, Ph.D.  
Sarah Swerdlow, Ph.D.  
Sheetal Thakur, Ph.D.  
Yixing (Emily) Zhou, Ph.D.  
Xiaoqing Chang, Ph.D.

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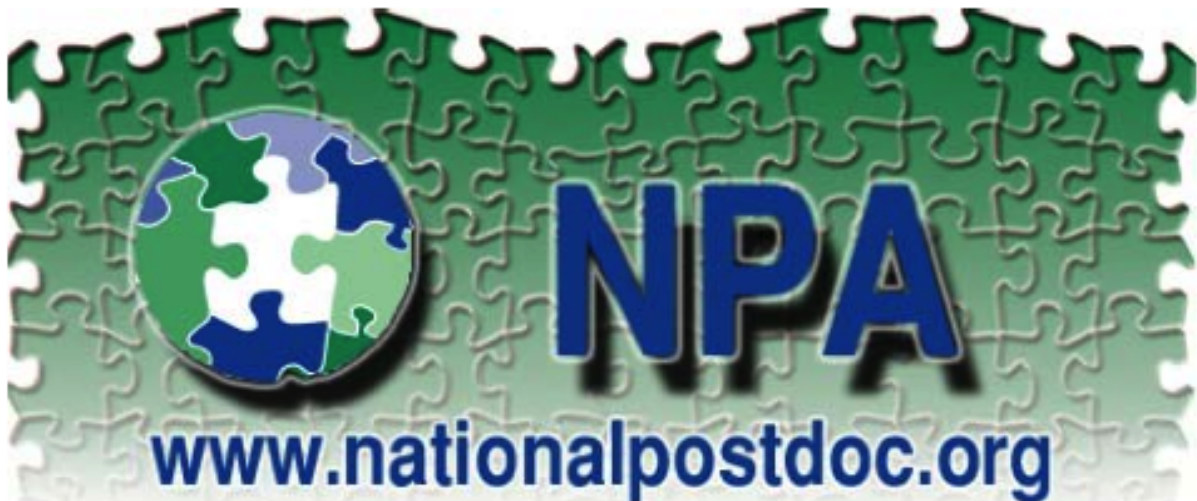


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**Al Little, Program Services Specialist, Facilities Operations, OARM/FMSD, US EPA**

**Brian Hoffman, Audio Visual Services and Room Setup, OARM/FMSD, US EPA**

**Dwight Nichols, Audio Visual Services and Room Setup, OARM/FMSD, US EPA**

**Steve Goldfarb, Audio Visual Services and Room Setup, OARM/FMSD, US EPA**

**Dustin Riego, Graphic Support and Communications, OARM/IRMD, US EPA**

**Wilhelmina McAllister, Management Analyst Assistant III, SEE, ORD/IO, US EPA**

# List of Panelists and Workshop Presenters

**Ayoola Aboyade-Cole, Ph.D.**

Regulatory Associate  
UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer  
Center  
aacole@med.unc.edu

**Anastacia Berzat, Ph.D.**

Scientific Program Manager  
Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research  
anastacia.berzat@novartis.com

**Sophia Bolick, Ph.D.**

Medical Writer  
MedThink Communications  
Sophie\_bolick@yahoo.com

**Jennifer Brigati, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Biology  
Maryville College  
jennifer.brigati@maryvillecollege.edu

**Marsha Cole, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor  
University of Louisville  
marcie.cole@louisville.edu

**John Cowden, Ph.D.**

Biologist  
EPA  
cowden.john@epa.gov

**Jennifer Freedman, Ph.D.**

Research Scientist  
Duke University  
jennifer.freedman@duke.edu

**Johannes Freudenberg, Ph.D.**

Computational Biologist  
GlaxoSmithKline  
johannes.m.freudenberg@gsk.com

**Claudia Generaux, Ph.D.**

Investigator -DMPK Enteroendocrine DPU  
GlaxoSmithKline  
claudia.n.generaux@gsk.com

**Chris Geyer, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor  
East Carolina University  
geyerc@ecu.edu

**Linda Grasfeder, Ph.D., RAC**

Clinical Pharmacology Associate

ClinPharm Consulting, LLC  
llgrasfeder@gmail.com

**Camile Grubor, Ph.D.**

Technical Grant Writer  
Advanced Liquid Logic  
cgrubor@liquid-logic.com

**Vladimir Grubor, Ph.D.**

Scientist  
BASF Plant Science  
vladimir.grubor@basf.com

**Josh Hall, Ph.D.**

Director, Post-baccalaureate Research  
Education Program  
University of North Carolina  
jdhall@unc.edu

**Elaina Howard, Ph.D.**

Clinical Research Scientist  
Impact Pharmaceuticals

**Morten Jensen, Ph.D.**

Licensing Associate  
North Carolina State University  
mbjensen100@gmail.com

**Diane Klotz, Ph.D.**

Director, Office of Training and Academic  
Services  
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute  
dklotz@sanfordburnham.org

**Anne Knowlton, Ph.D.**

Scientific Editor  
Cell Press/Elsevier  
annelknowlton@gmail.com

**Andres Larrea, Ph.D.**

Field Application Specialist  
Pacific Biosciences  
alarrea.mail@gmail.com

**Kelly Mercier, Ph.D.**

Applications Scientist  
LipoScience  
kelly.mercier@liposcience.com

**Peter Miller, Ph.D.**

Field Sales Manager



# List of Panelists and Workshop Presenters

GE Healthcare Life Sciences  
peter.miller@ge.com

**Stephanie Miller, Ph.D.**  
Licensing Associate  
University of Virginia Licensing & Ventures  
Group  
Stephanie@uvapf.org

**Jade Mitchell-Blackwood, Ph.D.**  
Risk Analyst, Risk Assessment Division  
Office of Public Health Science, USDA  
jade.mitchell-blackwood@fsis.usda.gov

**Joan P. Packenham, Ph.D.**  
Director, Office of Human Research  
Compliance  
NIEHS  
packenhm@niehs.nih.gov

**Erika Pfeiler, Ph.D.**  
Microbiologist  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
US Food and Drug Administration  
erika.pfeiler@fda.hhs.gov

**Patricia Phelps, Ph.D.**  
Deputy Director  
National Institutes of Health Graduate  
Partnerships Program  
patricia.phelps@nih.gov

**Craig Roberts, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Director of Education  
Duke Institute for Brain Science  
Duke University  
Craig.Roberts@Duke.edu

**Patrick Robertson, Ph.D.**  
Scientist II  
Fujifilm Diosynth Technologies  
patrick.robertson@fujifilmdb.com

**Adam Ruben, Ph.D.**  
Writer, Comedian, and Storyteller  
Molecular Biologist  
Sanaria Inc.  
jana.stone@duke.edu

**Alyssa Summers, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor of Biology  
Sewanee University

adam@adamruben.net

**Brante Sampey, Ph.D.**  
Study Director  
Metabolon Inc.  
BSampey@metabolon.com

**Jacob Sawyer, Ph.D.**  
Advanced Imaging Specialist  
Nikon Instruments Inc.  
Jsawyer@nikon.net

**Bill Schrader, Ph.D.**  
Deputy Scientific Director, Intramural Research  
Branch  
NIEHS/NIH  
schrader@niehs.nih.gov

**Thaddeus Schug, Ph.D.**  
Health Scientist  
NIEHS  
schugt@niehs.nih.gov

**Carol Shreffler, Ph.D.**  
Program Officer, Training and Career  
Development Program  
NIEHS/NIH  
shreffl1@niehs.nih.gov

**Melanie Sinche, NCC**  
Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs  
Harvard University

**Kelley Spence, Ph.D.**  
Environmental Engineer  
US EPA  
spence.kelley@epamail.epa.gov

**Angela Stewart**  
District Manager  
Kelly Scientific Resources  
angela\_stewart@kellyservices.com

**Jana Stone, Ph.D.**  
Scientific Coordinator  
Duke Center for Systems Biology  
Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

# List of Panelists and Workshop Presenters

arsummer@sewanee.edu

**Jeff Sunman, Ph.D.**

Patent Agent

Alston & Bird LLP

Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Patents Group

jeffrey.sunman@alston.com

**Shweta Trivedi, Ph.D.**

Teaching Assistant Professor

Department of Animal Science

North Carolina State University

strived@ncsu.edu

**Jonathan Wai, Ph.D.**

Psychologist, Writer, and Research Scientist

Duke University Talent Identification Program

jwai@tip.duke.edu

**Stuart Williams, Ph.D.**

Research Scientist

Liquidia Technologies Inc.

stuart.williams@liquidia.com

**Dara Wilson-Grant, MEd, NCC**

Associate Director

UNC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

Owner & Consultant, Careers in Bloom

dwgrant@email.unc.edu

**Nicole Zandy, PhD**

Senior Operational Effectiveness Specialist

Quintiles

nicole.zandy@quintiles.com